

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 42-45, and 53 were determined to contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-12 and 42-53 stand provisionally rejected on grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2, 7-11, 14, 19-23, 28-35, and 37 of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/033,042. This response includes a terminal disclaimer over the subject application. Applicants respectfully request the obviousness-type double patenting rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 46-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,802,005 (Berson). Claims 49 and 51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Berson. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 46 was amended to include features in structural form similar to the features of allowed claim 1. Thus, claims 46-52 are allowable for reasons similar to those accepted for claim 1. The claimed subject matter set forth in amended apparatus claim 46 includes a notification unit operable to notify a user that a package has arrived at a predetermined location. The notification unit is structural and therefore cannot be construed as being performed by a human. The notification unit, scanner, collector, and comparator are directed to hardware components. Hence, the previous statutory subject matter rejection does not apply to claims 46-52.

Berson fails to teach or suggest a notification unit operable to notify a user of the arrival of a package. Hence, claims 46-52 are allowable. Applicants respectfully request the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4070 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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